

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 01599 281821Z
ACTION SS-25

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FOR EUR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN ONLY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: UK, CYP, PFOR
SUBJECT: BRITISH VIEWS ON CYPRUS

1. AT BREAKFAST MEETING JANUARY 28 LONDON' ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN INFORMED DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY HIBBERT (AND THROUGH HIM THE EC) THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD SOON BE SENDING AN EMISSARY TO THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THE EMISSARY, HE STRESSED, WOULD NOT BE ON JUST A FACT-FINDING MISSION, BUT WOULD BE TESTING SUGGESTIONS, AND WOULD PROBABLY TOUCH BASE IN LONDON AS A LAST STOP EN ROUTE HOME. THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS ANXIOUS TO LAUNCH A NEW INITIATIVE ON CYPRUS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND IS KEENLY AWARE OF THE NEED FOR CLOSE CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION WITH THE CONGRESS.

2. HIBBERT EXPRESSED HMG'S FULL APPROVAL FOR A NEW US INITIATIVE, AND ITS DESIRE TO CONSULT WITH THE US AT AN EARLY STAGE IN THAT INITIATIVE ON SPECIFIC TERRITORIAL
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AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS (THERE HAD BEEN A PRE-LIMINARY US-UK EXPLORATION OF THESE QUESTIONS AT THE WORKING LEVEL IN WASHINGTON LAST WEEK). HIBBERT THOUGHT THE FRG AND FRANCE SHOULD THEN BE BROUGHT INTO THE DISCUSSIONS BECAUSE OF THEIR CLOSE TIES WITH THE TURKS AND THE GREEKS RESPECTIVELY. IF THIS WERE HANDLED DISCREETLY, HE WAS SURE FULL EC APPROVAL WOULD FOLLOW

WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

3. FINAL STEP, BEFORE SUBMITTING SETTLEMENT PACKAGE TO GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS, WOULD BE TO SECURE PRIVATELY AND SECRETLY APPROVAL FROM ANKARA AND ATHENS. AS HIBBERT ENVISAGES IT, FINAL PACKAGE WOULD LAY DOWN FAIRLY FIRM GUIDELINES FOR ULTIMATE SETTLEMENT LEAVING IT TO TWO PARTIES TO WORK OUT FINAL DETAILS. (HARTMAN REMARKED THAT IN BRUSSELS LAST MONTH, CAGLAYANGIL, DISCUSSING TERRITORY TURKS WOULD SETTLE FOR, HAD QUOTED A LOWER PERCENTAGE THAN USUAL. HIBBERT COMMENTED THAT ONE CAN NEVER BE SURE WITH WHAT AUTHORITY CAGLAYANGIL SPEAKS.) HIBBERT WOULD LIKE TO SECURE AT LEAST PRIVATE AGREEMENT ALL AROUND ON SETTLEMENT PACKAGE PRIOR TO TURKISH ELECTIONS, WITH PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT DEFERRED, IF TURKS REQUIRE IT, UNTIL AFTER THEIR ELECTION IS OUT OF THE WAY.

4. AFTER OUTLINING ABOVE SCENARIO, HIBBERT RAISED THE SBA'S. HE NOTED THAT UK DEFENSE BUDGET PROJECTIONS PROVIDED FOR THE FUNDING OF SBA'S ONLY UP TO 1979, AND THAT US AND UK WOULD NEED TO DISCUSS THEIR FUTURE DISPOSITION AS ONE INPUT INTO OVERALL SETTLEMENT. WHEN PRESSED BY HARTMAN, HIBBERT CONCEDED THAT HMG REALLY WANTED TO GET OUT OF SBA'S ALTOGETHER. HE WONDERED ALOUD, HOWEVER, WHETHER IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO CONSOLIDATE ALL PRESENT ACTIVITIES AT AKROTIRI. HE ALSO WONDERED ABOUT GIVING PART OF DHEKELIA TO THE GREEK CYPRIOTS. HARTMAN AGREED THAT IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR US AND UK TO CONSULT FULLY ABOUT ANY POSSIBLE

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CHANGES IN STATUS OF SBA'S.

ARMSTRONG

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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